

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3663

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish requirements for owners of certain bridges, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 29, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW (for himself and Ms. TITUS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish requirements for owners of certain bridges, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Bridge Protection
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BRIDGE**
7 **PROJECTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 23, United
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

1 **“§ 180. Requirements for certain bridges**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition for receiving
3 funds under this title, the Secretary of Transportation
4 shall require any owner of a covered bridge to conduct ves-
5 sel collision vulnerability assessments using the American
6 Association of State Highway and Transportation Offi-
7 cials Method II and submit the results of such assessment
8 to the Secretary.

9 “(b) RESULTS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a covered bridge as-
11 sessed under subsection (a) exceeds the American
12 Association of State Highway and Transportation
13 Officials risk threshold for such bridge, the owner
14 shall develop and implement a risk reduction plan
15 not later than 1 year after the completion of the as-
16 sessment under subsection (a).

17 “(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR FUTURE GRANTS.—
18 Beginning on October 1, 2026, if an owner of a
19 bridge required to develop a risk reduction plan
20 under paragraph (1) fails to develop and implement
21 such plan, the owner shall be ineligible for any Fed-
22 eral grant relating to such bridge, unless such owner
23 receives an extension to implement such plan from
24 the Secretary of Transportation.

25 “(c) INTEGRATION OF DATA.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
2 the completion of an assessment under subsection
3 (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall integrate
4 the results of such assessment into the National
5 Bridge Inventory of the Department of Transpor-
6 tation.

7 “(2) PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE DATA.—In in-
8 tegrating results under paragraph (1), the Secretary
9 may withhold any sensitive secure data that the Sec-
10 retary determines appropriate to preserve the secu-
11 rity of the bridges involved in such assessments.

12 “(d) COVERED BRIDGE DEFINED.—In this section,
13 the term ‘covered bridge’ means a bridge over navigable
14 water that was built before 1996.

15 **“§ 181. Interdisciplinary Bridge Safety team**

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
17 shall establish an interdisciplinary bridge safety team
18 within the Department of Transportation to provide guid-
19 ance, oversee compliance, and maintain a national vulner-
20 ability database for bridges.

21 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The team established under
22 subsection (a) shall be comprised of detailees from the
23 Federal Highway Administration, the Coast Guard, and
24 the Corps of Engineers.

1 **“§ 182. Bridge vulnerability grant program**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
3 shall establish a program to provide grants on a competi-
4 tive basis for assessments and physical improvements for
5 covered bridges.

6 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a
7 grant under this section, an owner of a covered bridge
8 shall submit to the Secretary an application in such form,
9 in such manner, and containing such information as the
10 Secretary may require.

11 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant under
12 this section may use the grant provided to carry out as-
13 sessments or make physical improvements to a covered
14 bridge.

15 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the pro-
17 gram under this section, \$500,000,000 for fiscal years
18 2026 through 2030.

19 “(e) COVERED BRIDGE DEFINED.—In this section,
20 the term ‘covered bridge’ means a bridge over navigable
21 water that was built before 1996.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
23 ter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by add-
24 ing at the end the following:

“180. Requirements for certain bridges.

“181. Interagency Bridge Safety Office.

“182. Bridge vulnerability grant program.”.

